

Andrew Jackson to Thomas Cadwalader, November 16, 1828, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO GENERAL THOMAS CADWALADER.¹

¹ This copy begins in the handwriting of Jackson but is completed in that of another person.

Hermitage, November 16, 1828.

My D'r sir, Your friendly letter of the 15th ultimo has been received, and I should have done myself the pleasure of acknowledging its receipt before this, but for the desire of getting some information upon the subject of the Bank about which you express some solicitude

I assure you my D'r sir, that I feel myself under many obligations for the disinterested and liberal support of my friends in every section of the union, and to none am I under higher and more lasting obligations than to my Pennsylvania friends. That state is as firm in the cause of Republicanism and liberal principles as are her native mountains—she has shewn herself, by her virtue and love of liberty, worthy of the predominating influence she possesses, and from her local situation always must possess in the Union.

With regard to the Bank located in Nashville,² I can say but little, altho I have made some enquiry concerning it, since the receipt of your letter. Never having been, in any manner, connected with Banks, and having very little to do with the one here, I feel myself unable to give you any satisfaction about it. The Directors so far as I know, are reputed honest; but some of them, it is true, are but little known out of Nashville. Whether the President has an undue influence over the Board or not, I am unable to say; but as some of the

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members are young men and partly raised by him, it is quite probable that they have much confidence in his Judgment and may be influenced by his opinions. I am told the greatest objection to the present Board is, that a large proportion of the members are Europeans, and some of them residents of this place but a very few years. If it is any part of the policy of the mother Bank to conciliate the states and make their Branches acceptable to the people, then I think a portion of their board at least, should have been composed of men better known, and possessing more extensive influence than the most of those in the directory of the Bank at Nashville do. I do not wish to speak as to the *competency* of the present Board in *Judiciously* and *safely* managing the concerns of the Bank—for of this I am not sufficiently informed to allow myself to speak: nor am I able to say whether its management has given *General* satisfaction; but I have understood complaints have been made—whether well or ill founded I know not.

2 The Nashville branch of the United States Bank. Cadwalader was a director of the parent bank.

Mrs Jackson requests that her kind salutations may be presented to Mrs Cadwalader to whom you will be pleased to add mine.

With sincere respect and regard I am dear sir Your most obt servant